Sovereign Grace Church

July 30th, 2023

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

"…they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God."

(Zechariah 13:9)

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Sovereign Grace Church

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www.sovereigngracechurch.us

"I doubt not but what there are some here this morning who neither know nor love the Saviour as yet, who nevertheless belong to the Redeemer, and He will yet bring them to Himself and to His flock. Therefore it is that we preach with confidence. I do not come into this pulpit hoping that perhaps somebody will of his own free will return to Christ. My hope lies in another quarter. I hope that my Master will lay hold of some of them and say, 'You are mine, and you shall be mine. I claim you for myself.' My hope arises from the freeness of grace, and not from the freedom of the will."— CHS

Welcome

SINNERS are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect church, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's *undeserved* grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name Jesus for He shall (not might, not maybe) rather He shall save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it! You are *complete in Him*, saved to the *uttermost* [Colossians 2:10, Hebrews 7:25].

Announcements

Happy Birthday!

Angela Church, August 3rd
Troy Church, August 5th

Resources

BE sure to visit our website for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

www.sovereigngracechurch.us

Grace Articles

What Is Your Ground Of Assurance?

"…by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8)

TO those who struggle with assurance, saying, "There are so many times that I do not feel saved", I would remind you that, before you came to Christ, there were many times you did not feel lost! Did your lack of 'lost feeling' at that time mean that you weren't lost? Of course not! For feelings have nothing to do with whether or not we are lost. Do you not see that it is the same with respect to whether or not we are saved? Martin Luther said it well when he wrote:

'For feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God;
Naught else is worth believing.'

There it is! God's Word! There is our foundation. The Scriptures never instruct us to feel, but to believe. If you do not feel, believe anyway! It does not say, 'For by grace are you saved through FEELINGS.' Feelings are a look inward, at ourselves. Faith is a look outward at Christ. Feelings change because they look at a changing object— ourselves. Faith never changes, for it looks at an unchanging object— Christ! May God grant you grace to look to Him. — Joe Terrell (Rock Valley, IA)

He Must Increase!

"He must increase, but I must decrease."

(John 3:30)

JOHN the Baptist said, *"He must increase, but I must decrease"* (John 3:30). How is that manifested in us?

When I see His faithfulness, I see my unbelief and need.

When I see His righteousness, I see my sinfulness and need.

When I see His love, I see my hostility and need.

When I see His patience, I see my resistance and need.

When I see His forgiveness, I see my levying and need.

Where does that leave me? Needing Him! I rejoice then with the Apostle John—*"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation* [the once for all sin atoning sacrifice] *for our sins"* (1 John 4:10). — Kevin Thacker (San Diego, CA)

Not Holding The Head

"And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God." (Colossians 2:19)

IT is a clear commentary upon someone's religion when they are more interested in talking about their own thoughts and opinions, their will, wants and wishes, their denominational beliefs, church creeds, discipline, traditions, rules and practices, rather than the Word of God. The Apostle Paul said these are those who are, *'NOT HOLDING THE HEAD'* (Colossians 2:19), but would rather talk about the body (church). *'But you have not so learned Christ.'* Those who have truly seen the *'Glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ'*, are altogether taken up with Him, with His person, and His work. While the conversation of the mere professor of religion is of his religion, the speech of the true 'Christian' is of his CHRIST. — Paul Mahan (Rocky Mount, VA)

"For I am the Lord, I change not."

"For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." (Malachi 3:6)

GOD is unchangeable in His essence, nature, and perfections. Isn't it wonderful that in our experience in a life that is nothing but change, to know that the Lord changes not? *"For I am the Lord, I change not"* (Malachi 3:6). His purpose has never altered and never will. This gives assurance and peace to all who have fled to Christ for refuge. — David Pledger (Houston, TX)

Dying Grace

"And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep." (Acts 7:60)

FOR the child of God, saving grace extends to and strengthens in the hour of death. In Acts 7, Stephen was called on by God to endure a cruel and painful departure from this world. Yet, the Lord gave him: 1) a good confession; 2) a fresh filling of the Holy Ghost; 3) eyes of faith to see heaven open and Christ standing as his Advocate; 4) the grace to ask for grace; and 5) a spirit of forgiveness to his murderers. May the Lord grow us in His grace and in the knowledge of Christ until the day of our departure when we shall like Stephen, *"fall asleep"*. — Greg Elmquist (Apopka, FL)